

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Through this document the Board of Registration in Nursing complies with Section 78, Chapter 112, General Laws which requires the Board to make an annual report of the condition of nursing in the Commonwealth. The report covers the fiscal year period from July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981.

PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS OF BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

The Board of Registration in Nursing, an administrative agency within the governmental organization of the Commonwealth is delegated the responsibility for implementation of those statutes and sections of statutes that provide legal control of nursing practice. The fundamental purpose of the Board is to safeguard the welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth who require the services of professional and practical nurses.

To fulfill its purpose, the Board has two major functions:

1. Licensure of professional and practical nurses
2. Determination and maintenance of nursing education standards that are basic to licensure of safe practitioners through approval of nursing education programs.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

Qualifications for membership are established by Section 13, Chapter 13, General Laws as amended. Section 13 provides that Board membership shall consist of five registered nurses, two licensed practical nurses and one public member. Members are appointed by Governor for six-year term.

TABLE 1 Membership - Board of Registration in Nursing

<u>Name of Member</u>	<u>Representation</u>
Helen Barrett, R.N.	Teaching staff collegiate school for nurses
Benito Barsanti	Public Member
*Frances Daigneault, R.N.	Teaching staff practical-vocational nursing school
*Sophia Bousquet, L.P.N.	Licensed Practical Nurse
Anne Hargreaves, R.N.	Public Health Nursing
Marion Metcalf, R.N.	Nursing Service Administration
*Catherine Tower, R.N.	Teaching staff diploma school of nursing
Jean Thorne, L.P.N.	Licensed Practical Nurse
**Phyllis Migliozi, R.N.	Teaching staff diploma school of nursing
**Ann Sheehan, R.N.	Teaching staff practical-vocational school of nursing
**Elaine Thibault, L.P.N.	Licensed Practical Nurse

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s expired
lis Migliozi appointed 3/9/81
Sheehan appointed 5/7/81
ne Thibault appointed 6/23/81

Serial

Board members held 12 regular meetings and 4 special meetings

Dates of regular meetings

July 23, 1980
August 6, 1980
September 24, 1980
October 22, 1980
November 19, 1980
December 17, 1980
January 28, 1981
February 24, 1981
March 25, 1981
April 22, 1981
May 27, 1981
June 24, 1981

Dates of special meetings

October 6, 1980
November 13, 1980
April 9, 1981
April 24, 1981

A quorum was established at all meetings. Minutes of each meeting are on file at the Board of Registration in Nursing office.

Anne Hargreaves, R.N. was elected Chairman and Catherine Tower, R.N. was elected Vice-chairman at the annual meeting on October 1980. M. Metcalf replaced C. Tower as Vice-chairman in March 1981.

Mrs. Martha Ginty, R.N., Executive Secretary, resigned 9/26/80 as Executive Secretary. Eleanor Burke, R.N., was appointed Acting Executive Secretary October 6, 1980.

LICENSURE

PROFESSIONAL NURSES

During the 1981 fiscal year two exam sessions consisting of two days were conducted (July 9, 10, 1980 and February 3, 4, 1981) Total of 3,600 candidates were examined. The source of examinees were as follows:

Graduates of Schools of Nursing in Massachusetts	2,954
Graduates of Schools of Nursing located in other States	481
Graduates of Schools of Nursing located in other Countries.	165

Of the 3,600 candidates, 2,917 were examined for the first time; 683 were repeating the examination.

Original certificates of registration were issued to 4,392 individuals, 2,867 through examination and 1,525 through endorsement by another board of nursing. In the fiscal year 40,928 renewal registrations were issued.

Table 2. Number of Registered Nurse Certificates Issued Each Fiscal Year 1977 - 1981

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Original Registrations</u>		<u>Total</u>	<u>*Renewal</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Examination</u>	<u>Endorsement</u>	<u>Originals</u>	<u>Registrations</u>	<u>Registrations</u>
1977	3217	1226	4443	36178	40621
1978	3283	1231	4514	48539	53053
1979	3638	1633	5271	38835	44106
1980	3107	1653	4760	50915	55675
1981	2867	1525	4392	40928	45320

* Biennial renewal in even-numbered years for registered nurses.

In the five year period, 1977-1981, 23,380 original licenses were issued, 16,112 (68.9%) through examination and 7,268 (31.1%) through endorsement.

PRACTICAL NURSES

During fiscal year 1981, 2 practical nurse exam sessions of one day each were held (October 21, 1980 and April 14, 1981) 1,060 candidates were examined. The source of examination was as follows:

Graduates of Schools of Practical Nursing located in Massachusetts.	940
Graduates of Schools of Practical Nursing located in other states	36
Graduates of Professional Schools of Nursing in U.S.A..	33
Graduates of Schools of Practical Nursing in other Countries.	42
Equivalency (withdrawals from schools of professional nursing).	9

A total of 1,249 original certificates of licensure were issued to practical nurses 1,008 through examination and 241 through endorsement.

During fiscal 1981, 13,724 renewal licenses were issued. Therefore, a total of 14,973 practical nurse licenses were issued during the year.

Table 3. Number of Practical Nurse Licenses Issued Each Fiscal Year, 1977 - 1981

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Original Licenses</u>		<u>Total Originals</u>	<u>* Renewal Licenses</u>	<u>Total Licenses</u>
	<u>Examination</u>	<u>Endorsement</u>			
1977	1185	262	1447	14489	15936
1978	1196	181	1377	10688	12065
1979	1173	237	1410	15040	16450
1980	1156	281	1437	11019	12456
1981	1008	241	1249	13724	14973

* Biennial renewal in odd-numbered years for licensed practical nurses

During the fiscal year period 1977-1981 6920 original licenses were issued; 5718 (82.6%) through examination and 1202 (17.4%) through endorsement.

CERTIFIED STATEMENTS

Licensure through endorsement requires that the Board of Nursing in the state of original licensure provide a certified statement verifying that license to the Board of Nursing in the state in which the individual is making application for registration as a professional nurse or licensure as a practical nurse without examination. In addition, certified statements verifying the licensee's nursing education, examination results and/or current licensure are often required by colleges or universities to which the licensee is seeking admission, by licensing authorities in other countries and by employers of nurses.

During fiscal 1981, the Board of Registration in Nursing issued a total of 4273 certified statements on behalf of Massachusetts licensed nurses; 3532 for registered nurses and 741 for licensed practical nurses.

The following table identifies the recipient of the certified statement issued during fiscal 1981 by type of license.

<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Number Issued</u>	
	<u>R.N.</u>	<u>LPN</u>
Boards of Nursing, Other States	3324	566
Licensing Authorities, Other Countries	73	5
Schools, Colleges, Universities, or Employers	119	155
Replacement of lost licenses	16	16
Total	3532	741

The following table shows the number of certified statements issued annually for five consecutive years, by type of license.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>No. Issued for R.N.</u>	<u>No. Issued for L.P.N.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1977	3467	841	4308
1978	3793	734	4527
1979	3064	1000	4064
1980	3694	760	4454
1981	3532	741	4273

CERTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL NURSES

A nurse registered in another jurisdiction may be issued a certificate to practice professional nursing under the supervision of a registered nurse pending completion of the requirements for registration. The certification provisions of the nursing practice statute (M.G.L.S., Chapter 112, Sec. 76A) apply to nurses licensed in other jurisdictions. A certificate may be issued for one year and may be renewed for not more than one additional consecutive year.

During fiscal 1981; 13 original and 1 renewal certificates were issued.

Since the effective date of the certification statute in 1966 through June 30, 1981 a total of 1340 original and 153 renewal certificates have been issued.

During the report year the Board voted to issue certificates only to applicants who show evidence of having passed the CGFNS examination.

AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE IN THE EXPANDED ROLE

During the report year, 631 nurses were authorized to practice in the expanded role.

The following table shows the number authorized in the expanded role during the fiscal year and the total number authorized to date, by category:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number Authorized</u>	<u>Total to 6/30/81</u>
	<u>During Fiscal 1981</u>	
Nurse Anesthetist	44	491
Nurse Midwives	15	48
Nurse Practitioners	480	480
Psychiatric/Mental Health	92	180
Total	631	1199

In addition 318 nurse practitioners were issued pending authorization until their birthday in 1982.

The Board also took the following actions:

1. Administered an examination on September 9, 1980 to Nurse Anesthetists who are not eligible for national certification.
2. Voted to administer a second examination to Nurse Anesthetists
3. Voted to authorize a Nurse Anesthetist who did not take the national certification examination. Voted to rescind this authorization.
4. Voted to deny authorization to a Nurse Anesthetist who failed the national certification examination.
5. Notified 308 Nurse Practitioners with pending authorizations to cease practicing in the expanded role if they did not take or pass the national certification exam.
6. Met with the Chairmen of the Advisory Committees
7. Met with the members of the Nurse Anesthetist Advisory Committee.
8. Referred the following issues to the Liaison Committee:
 - a) Psychiatric/Mental Health Clinical Specialists
 - b) Nurse Anesthetists
 - c) Nurse Practitioners with pending authorizations
 - d) Operating room nurses functioning as first assistants

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REINSTATEMENTS

During the report year, 61 complaints were received. Since some complaints involved more than one licensee, the 61 complaints concerned 67 licensees: 54 R.N.'s and 13 L.P.N.'s.

The Board took the following actions:

1. Revoked the license of 1 R.N.
2. Suspended the licenses of 7 R.N.'s and 2 L.P.N.'s
3. Accepted the voluntary surrender of the licensees of 11 R.N.'s and 2 L.P.N.'s
4. Place 1 R.N. on probation
5. Reprimanded 1 R.N.
6. Reinstated the licenses of 6 R.N.'s and 3 L.P.N.'s
7. Denied the petition for reinstatement of 2 R.N.'s
8. Referred the case of 1 L.P.N. imposter to the Attorney General's Office.

The Board established a complaint committee in September, 1980. Benito Barsanti was chairman of the committee until April, 1981. Marion Metcalf functioned as Chairman for the remainder of the year.

OTHER LICENSURE BUSINESS

During the fiscal year, the Board activities included:

A. Licensure

1. Reviewed the results of the licensure examination administered to professional nurses in July, 1980
2. Reviewed the results of the licensure examination administered to practical nurses in October 1980.
3. Reviewed and evaluated draft items for inclusion in future R.N. and L.P.N. examinations
4. Approved plans for administration of the licensing examination at two sites in February and July, 1981.
5. Voted to accept for licensure through endorsement graduates of the New York Regents External Degree Program.
6. Reviewed the applications of nine candidates who appealed the decision of Board staff:
 - a. Approved one applicant for licensure as a R.N. with examination
 - b. Approved the applications of 3 foreign educated nurses for licensure as R.N. without examination
 - c. Approved the application of a practical nurse licensed by waiver in another state.
 - d. Approved the request for renewal of a certificate of one foreign educated nurse
 - e. Denied the requests for renewal of a certificate of two foreign educated nurses.
 - f. Denied the request to waive evidence of high school graduation of one applicant for licensure as a R.N.

B. Continuing Education

- a. Added the Massachusetts/Rhode Island League for Nursing to the list of professional organizations through which contact hours could be earned.
- b. Voted to delegate to the three major organizations the approval of programs for one year subject to legal opinion.
- c. Met with members of the Advisory Council to discuss proposed changes in the Rules and Regulations
- d. Approved the proposed revisions in the regulations proposed by the Advisory Council
- e. Planned informational meetings and a public hearing on the proposed regulations.

NURSING EDUCATION

INTRODUCTION

The Board of Registration in Nursing is the legal accrediting (approval) agency for nursing education programs preparing professional and practical nurses who are eligible for admission to the licensure examination.

Schools of Professional Nursing

There are three types of programs preparing professional nurses:

1. Schools of nursing which grant a diploma administered by a hospital corporation
2. Schools of nursing which grant an associate degree in nursing usually administered by a junior or community college
3. Schools of nursing which grant a baccalaureate degree in nursing usually administered by a senior college or university.

On November 1, 1980 a total of 9453 students were enrolled in basic nursing education programs in Massachusetts leading to licensure.

The distribution of types of schools of professional nursing on five selected dates was as follows:

TYPE OF PROGRAM	* NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ON				
	11/1/76	11/1/77	11/1/78	11/1/79	11/1/80
Diploma	28	26	22	19	19
Baccalaureate Degree	10	10	11	13	13
Associate Degree	19	20	21	21	21
Total	57	56	53	53	52

* The changes in number reflect the initiation of 5 schools and the closure of 10.

Diploma schools closed (voluntary closure) are: Holyoke and Lawrence General in 1977; Children's, Faulkner, Mount Auburn and Salem in 1978; Lynn, Quincy City and Whidden in 1979; and Memorial in 1980.

Baccalaureate degree programs initiated are: American International in 1977; Our Lady of the Elms in 1978 and Curry College in 1979.

Associate degree programs initiated are: Curry in 1977 and Quincy Juniors in 1979.

Four schools are in the process of voluntary closure. They are:

<u>School</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Last Class Admitted</u>	<u>Closure Date</u>
Burbank Hospital	Fitchburg	1979	1982
Mass. General Hospital	Boston	1979	1981
Curry College (AD)	Milton	1978	1981
Northeastern University (AD)	Boston	1978	1981

The following table provides enrollment, admission and graduation statistics for the three types of schools of professional nursing on November 1, 1980.

Type of Program	NUMBER AND PERCENT OF		
	<u>Students Enrolled</u>	<u>Students Admitted</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Diploma	2303 (24.4%)	890 (27.0%)	798 (30.1%)
Baccalaureate degree	4684 (49.6%)	1163 (35.3%)	853 (32.2%)
Associate degree	2466 (26.0%)	1242 (37.7%)	1001 (37.7%)
All Programs	9453	3295	2652

Compared with 1979 data, enrollment increased by 0.4%, admissions increased by 2% and graduates decreased by 7.9%.

Schools of Practical Nursing

The distribution of schools of practical nursing on five selected dates is:

<u>Type of Program</u>	<u>* Number of Schools on</u>				
	<u>11/1/76</u>	<u>11/1/77</u>	<u>11/1/78</u>	<u>11/1/79</u>	<u>11/1/80</u>
Vocational	23	23	23	22	22
Hospital	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
Total	32	32	31	30	30

* Changes in number reflect the closure of two schools. Addison Gilbert in 1978; Leominster Trade in 1979.

The following table provides enrollment, admission and graduation data for the two types of schools of practical nursing as reported by the schools on November 1, 1980.

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF

<u>Type of Program</u>	<u>Students Enrolled</u>	<u>Students Admitted</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
Vocational	846 (67.3%)	857 (66.9%)	616 (64.4%)
Hospital	<u>410 (32.6%)</u>	<u>424 (33.1%)</u>	<u>341 (35.6%)</u>
All programs	1256	1281	957

During the fiscal year the Board reviewed the letters of intent to establish a new practical nursing program of five institutions and voted to forward a copy of the guidelines to: Hanscom Air Force Base, Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational School, Jewish Memorial Hospital, Middlesex County Hospital, Kenyon-Campbell Business School.

The Board reviewed a letter of intent from Worcester State College to establish a baccalaureate degree nursing program jointly with Worcester Hahnemann Hospital and voted to forward a copy of the guidelines to the college.

The Board reviewed 17 curriculum revisions; two submitted by schools of professional nursing and 15 by schools of practical nursing. It approved all but one submitted by a school of practical nursing. The latter was referred to the school faculty with recommendations for revision. Those approved were submitted by:

New England Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing
 Assabet Valley Regional Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Diman Regional Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Southeastern Regional Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Greater Lawrence Regional Vocational Practical Nursing Program (2)
 Department of Health & Hospital School of Practical Nursing
 McCann Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Bristol-Plymouth Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Waltham Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Roger L. Putnam Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Smith's Vocational Practical Nursing Program
 Youville Hospital School of Practical Nursing
 William J. Dean School of Practical Nursing
 David H Fanning School of Practical Nursing
 Atlantic Union College, Department of Nursing

OTHER NURSING EDUCATION BUSINESS

1. Conducted a conference with representatives of Bunker Hill Community College.

2. Conducted a conference with directors of schools and directors of nursing service.
3. Established a task force to establish a uniform format for the REGULATIONS GOVERNING SCHOOLS OF NURSING AND THE GENERAL CONDUCT THEREOF submitted by the two task forces.
4. Voted to accept the above regulations and held public hearings in Boston and Springfield.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING FEES DURING FISCAL 1981 were:

Original Licensure through Examination R.N.	30.00
Original Licensure through Examination L.P.N.	30.00
Original Licensure through Endorsement R.N.	50.00
Original Licensure through Endorsement L.P.N.	50.00
Certified Statement R.N. and L.P.N.	2.00
Certification to Practice Professional Nursing	30.00
Renewal of Certificate to Practice Professional Nursing	8.00
Renewal Licensure R.N.	6.00
Renewal Licensure L.P.N. (as of March 1, 1981) Fee went to	25.00

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING - FINANCIAL STATEMENT - June 30, 1981

INCOME	\$748,775.00	748,775.00
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EXPENDITURES

Board members - salaries	22,750.55	
accts payable	10.77	
travel	3,289.71	
accts payable	<u>7,710.29</u>	33,761.32

Directors Office

Clerical services	139,980.19	
Office Expenses	157,851.99	
" " accts payable	<u>2,038.50</u>	299,870.68

INCOME	748,775.00
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EXPENDITURES	<u>333,632.00</u>
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Difference	415,143.00
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